



# *COEUR D'ALENE BASIN*

## *News Briefs*

November 30, 1999

Issue No. 3

### **Environmental Protection Agency Highlights**

**Human Health Risk Assessment** - Contact: Sean Sheldrake - (206)553-1220

**Ecological Risk Assessment** - Contact: Anne Dailey - (206)553-2110

**Removals** - Contact: Earl Liverman - (208)664-4858

**Feasibility Study** - Contact: Mary Jane Nearman - (206)553-6642

➡ EPA, the State of Idaho and other agencies are currently working to process and analyze data from the sampling and field work conducted last spring and summer. We expect to be able to release most of the sampling results early next year. Information that will be available in early 2000 includes data from the Spokane River Human Health Screening, results from soil sampling at schools and day care centers and results from several studies conducted by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS).

➡ EPA's Region 10 office is currently developing a recommendation for an additional Superfund designation in the Basin. We have been discussing this recommendation with the States of Idaho and Washington, the Coeur d'Alene Tribe, the Spokane Tribe and the Federal Trustee Agencies for the past several months. Citizens and citizen groups have been provided information on the process that must be followed. Region 10 Administrator Chuck Clarke will again be meeting with IDEQ Director Steve Allred as well as Governor Kempthorne to discuss the Region's recommendation to EPA Headquarters regarding the proposal and the overall listing process.

➡ Eight informational signs have been installed on state land, between Harrison and Cataldo, at sites accessible from the river. Locations for signs at sites accessible by motor vehicle are now being selected.

**Documents recently added to the information repositories:**

Draft Field Sampling Plan and Quality Assurance Project Plan for the Bunker Hill Basin-Wide RI/FS -- School and Daycare Sampling to Support the Human Health Risk Assessment/Removal Actions (dated August 1999)

Draft Problem Formulation Phase of the Ecological Risk Assessment for the Coeur d'Alene Basin Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (dated October 1999).

Draft Final Expedited Screening Level Risk Assessment for Common Use Areas, Coeur d'Alene River Basin, Idaho (dated October 1999)

Draft Final Conceptual Site Model, Human Health Risk Assessment, Coeur d'Alene Basin RI/FS (dated November 11, 1999).

Draft Final Technical Memorandum: Selection of Chemicals of Potential Concern, Baseline Human Health Risk Assessment (dated November 22, 1999)

**Other Agency/Entity Highlights**

**Bureau of Land Management** - Contact: David Fortier - (208)769-5022

Please refer to Coeur d'Alene Basin News Brief #2 for previous information.

**Coeur d'Alene Tribe** - Contact: Phillip Cernera - (208)667-4119  
Please refer to Coeur d'Alene Basin News Brief #2 for previous information.

**Panhandle Health District**- Contact: Jerry Cobb - (208)783-0707  
Please refer to Coeur d'Alene Basin News Brief #2 for previous information.

**Silver Valley Naturel Resource Trustees** -  
Contact: Marti Calabretta - (208)786-2471  
Please refer to Coeur d'Alene Basin News Brief #2 for previous information.

**State of Idaho** - Contact: Rob Hanson - (208)373-0290  
The DEQ Cooperative Agreement is under review by the EPA. As you may remember from the last report, the purpose of the Cooperative Agreement is for DEQ to be funded to develop its cleanup

alternative and also provide the State's perspective into the RI/FS process.

The child blood lead survey was completed in September of this year by the Panhandle Health District. Additional sampling was conducted at 91 yards this fall where children with blood lead measurements live. This data will be used to develop site specific dose response data for the human health risk assessment. The Idaho Division of Health has the lead for this portion of the work.

**State of Washington - Department of Ecology** - Contact: John Roland - (509)625-5182

Washington State is studying metals and PCBs in fish collected along the upper Spokane River during the summer of 1999. Results pending.

With the assistance of the USGS, Washington is conducting an aquatics biological community assessment at several locations along the upper Spokane River. Results pending.

**United States Fish and Wildlife Service** - Contact: Dan Audet or Julie Campbell - (509)891-6839

Please refer to Coeur d'Alene Basin News Brief #2 for previous information.

**United States Forest Service** - Contact: John Specht or Jeff Johnson - (208)664-2318

Removal activities have started at the Medimont and Rainy Hill boat launch/picnic areas. Removal action at the Silver Crescent Mill in the East Fork of Moon Gulch is nearing completion with an early 2000 finish date expected.

**United States Geological Survey** - Contact: Paul Woods - (208)-387-1353

**University of Idaho** - Contact: Barbara Williams - (208)885-9436

The final draft of "Demonstration of in-situ metals-fixation technologies on the Coeur d'Alene River, Idaho" is available from the Idaho Water Resources Research Institute. A final report for the groundwater study at the Cataldo Flats area is in progress.

## Calendar of Events

**December 1<sup>st</sup>, 7 to 9 p.m.**

**Idaho CAC.** Rose Lake Historical Society Building (Highway 3, Rose Lake, ID)

**December 8<sup>th</sup>, 9 to Noon**

**Coeur d'Alene River Basin Commission.** Associated Logging Contractors' Building (5815 South Highway 95)

**December 14<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 a.m to 1:30 p.m.**

**Shoshone Natural Resources Coalition.** Brooks Hotel (500 Cedar Street, Wallace, ID) Contact Connie Fudge, 208-753-6022 (group meets the second Tuesday of each month)

**January 5<sup>th</sup>, 7 to 9 p.m.**

**CAC RI/FS Task Force.** Tentative location: Coeur d'Alene Tribal Bingo Casino (Highway 95, north of Worley)

**January 12<sup>th</sup>, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

**Coeur d'Alene Basin Interagency Group.** Location to be announced.

**January 18<sup>th</sup>, 7 to 9 p.m.**

**Washington CAC.** Washington Department of Ecology (4601 N. Monroe, Spokane, WA.) - contact Michele Nanni (509)838-4912 for details.